

HOLY SPIRIT EMPOWERED

Forbearance

2 Samuel 15:13 – 16:14

Forbearance:

Patient self-control or the willingness to endure extreme hardships without an adverse reaction.

The act of refraining from exercising one's power or legal right.

2 Samuel 15:13

A messenger soon arrived in Jerusalem to tell David, “All Israel has joined Absalom in a conspiracy against you!”

2 Samuel 15:14

“Then we must flee at once, or it will be too late!” David urged his men. “Hurry! If we get out of the city before Absalom arrives, both we and the city of Jerusalem will be spared from disaster.”

2 Samuel 15:15

“We are with you,”
his advisers replied.

“Do what you think is best.”

2 Samuel 15:16

So the king and all his household set out at once. He left no one behind except ten of his concubines to look after the palace.

2 Samuel 15:17

The king and all his people set out on foot, pausing at the last house to let all the king's men move past to lead the way.

2 Samuel 15:18

There were 600 men from Gath who had come with David, along with the king's bodyguard.

2 Samuel 15:23

The whole countryside wept aloud as all the people passed by. The king also crossed the Kidron Valley, and all the people moved on toward the wilderness.

2 Samuel 15:24

Zadok the priest and all the Levites also came along, carrying the Ark of the Covenant of God. They set down the Ark of God, and Abiathar offered sacrifices until everyone had passed out of the city.

2 Samuel 15:25

Then the king instructed Zadok to take the Ark of God back into the city. “If the Lord sees fit,” David said, “he will bring me back to see the Ark and the Tabernacle again.

2 Samuel 15:26

But if he is through with me,
then let him do what seems
best to him.”

2 Samuel 15:29

**So Zadok and Abiathar took the
Ark of God back to the city and
stayed there.**

2 Samuel 15:30a

David walked up the road to the Mount of Olives, weeping as he went. His head was covered and his feet were bare as a sign of mourning.

2 Samuel 15:30b

And the people who were with him covered their heads and wept as they climbed the hill.

2 Samuel 15:31a

Then David was told that,
“Ahithophel [*one of his wisest
and trusted advisors*] is among
the conspirators with Absalom.”

2 Samuel 16:5

**As King David came to Bahurim,
a man came out of the village
cursing them. It was Shimei son
of Gera, from the same clan as
Saul's family.**

2 Samuel 16:6

**He threw stones at the king and
the king's officers and all the
mighty warriors who
surrounded him.**

2 Samuel 16:7

**As he cursed, Shimei said,
“Get out, get out, you murderer,
you scoundrel!”**

2 Samuel 16:8a

**The Lord has repaid you for all
the blood you shed in the
household of Saul, in whose
place you have reigned.**

2 Samuel 16:8b

**The Lord has given the kingdom
into the hands of your son
Absalom. You have come to ruin
because you are a murderer!”**

2 Samuel 16:9

Then Abishai son of Zeruiah said to the king, “Why should this dead dog curse my lord the king? Let me go over and cut off his head.”

2 Samuel 16:10

“No!” the king said. “Who asked your opinion, you sons of Zeruiah! If the Lord has told him to curse me, who are you to stop him?”

2 Samuel 16:11

Then David said to Abishai and to all his servants, “My own son is trying to kill me. Doesn’t this relative of Saul have even more reason to do so? Leave him alone and let him curse, for the Lord has told him to do it.

2 Samuel 16:12

And perhaps the Lord will see that I am being wronged and will bless me because of these curses today.”

2 Samuel 16:13

So David and his men continued down the road, and Shimei kept pace with them on a nearby hillside, cursing and throwing stones and dirt at David.

2 Samuel 16:14

The king and all who were with him grew weary along the way, so they rested when they reached the Jordan River.

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Principle #1

Holy Spirit empowered forbearance is made possible by an intimate relationship with the Lord, and it is fueled by an ever-increasing experiential trust in our Lord and Master.

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Principle #2

**Holy Spirit empowered
forbearance is about
appropriately and graciously
using the power and authority
God has granted us.**

When we choose to trust in God, it means we will choose to submit to Him in whatever He allows. This means authentically demonstrating Christ-likeness no matter how others treat us or how unfair it is to us.

David's Forbearance

- Leaves the palace without a fight.
- Offers Ittai a way out of the situation.
- Leaves the Ark of the Covenant in Jerusalem.
- He does not blame or kill Shimei.

Principle #2

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God has granted us.**

Principle #3

**Holy Spirit empowered
forbearance understands the
connectedness of our personal
sins (even after we have been
forgiven) with sins that are later
committed against us and against
those we love dearly.**

Mirrored Sins

- David raped Bathsheeba.
Amnon raped Tamar.
- David plotted against
Uriah. Absalom plotted
against Amnon.
- David had Uriah killed.
Absalom had Amnon
killed.

Mirrored Sins

- **David destroyed the family of Uriah, Bathsheeba, and Ahithophel. David, Amnon, and Absalom destroyed David's family.**
- **David rebelled against God. Absalom rebelled against David.**

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Principle #4

**Holy Spirit empowered
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actual God mandated
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Principle #5

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the Lord when we are desperate
to receive the Lord's grace,
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Principle #6

**Holy Spirit empowered
forbearance understands that
God limits the lifespan of sin and
consequences while His
compassion, grace, love, mercy,
and faithfulness endure forever.**

Exodus 34:5

Then the Lord came down in a cloud and stood there with him; and he called out his own name, Yahweh. perhaps the Lord will see that I am being wronged and will bless me because of these curses today.”

Exodus 34:6

The Lord passed in front of Moses, calling out, “Yahweh! The Lord! The God of compassion and mercy! I am slow to anger and filled with unfailing love and faithfulness.

Exodus 34:7a

**I lavish unfailing love to a
thousand generations. I forgive
iniquity, rebellion, and sin.
But I do not excuse the guilty.**

Exodus 34:7b

I visit the sins of the parents upon their children and grandchildren; the entire family is affected—even children in the third and fourth generations.”

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Principle #7

**Holy Spirit empowered
forbearance is a gift from God,
but it is a choice and a
commitment we must make
every day and in every way.**

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